Choondal Panchayat.

296. Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how much the amount of Rs. 650 allotted for road maintenance for 1107 to the said Panchayat has been spent in that year;

(b) what is the mileage of roads under that Panchayat;

(c) please give in tabular form the name, length and amount spent on each of the roads?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—(a) Rs. 275 excluding tender deduction on the total value of works done which came to Rs. 534 nearly.

(b) 8 miles, 7 furlongs and 23 yards.

(c) The statement containing the information is appended.

No.	Name	Length M.	F.	Yds.	Amount Rs.
1	Parannur road	0	5	154	43
2	Perumanna road	0	5	132	42
3	School road	0	6	66	47
4	Aloor road	2	4	124	154
5	Keecheri road	0	4	33	31
6	Kandanisseri school road	1	1	39	72
7	Ariyannur road	0	4	22	31
8	Payyur road	0	3	33	24
9	Pattompadom road	1	0	134	65
10	Subramania temple road	0	3	66	25
	Total	8	7	25	534

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—(1) Am I to understand that the difference between 534 and 275 represents the tender deductions?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—That does not represent the tender deduction completely Something more also.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—What was the tender deduction?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—The tender deduction was Rs. 41-12-6 per hundred. That is in all Rs. 197-3-8.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—How is the balance accounted?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—The balance was due to some fines that were imposed for defective work.

Shortening of course for elementary education.

297. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—(a) Adverting to paragraph 63 of the report on the Educational Survey, by the Director of Public Instruction, and in view of the fact that the duration of elementary education in the State was 5 years some time ago, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons which prompted them to reduce the course of Elementary Education to 4 years;

(b) will the Government be pleased to place on the table a copy of the Director's or Government's order, as the case may be, reducing the said course to 4 years, and also a copy of the correspondence relating thereto, between the Director of Public Instruction and the Government?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) The reasons which prompted Government to reduce the course of elementary education to 4 years are given in the Director's letter dated 7th December 1914, C. No. 6077/89 given in (b).

(b) Copy of the Diwan's Proceedings dated 30th April 1915, C. 1398/90 reducing the said course to 4 years and copies of the D. P. C. 1398/90, dated 3rd February 1915 and of the Director's letters dated 7th December 1914 and 9th February 1915, C. No. 6077/89 are placed on the table. (*Appendix III*).

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—The course of primary education was 5 years at one time, and it was reduced to 4 years; certain grounds are also stated for reducing the course from 5 to 4. Do the Government think that these rules are no longer in force in Cochin? To make it more clear, the grounds stated are:—time for industrial or agricultural pursuits, after the vernacular course is over and one year sooner; another is a similar system prevailing in Travancore, Madras and Mysore; a third one is the large influx into other schools; then the reduction of pressure on Government in respect of accommodation, and lastly, the savings to the Government. Has the force of these grounds disappeared?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—In some way the force has disappeared and there have also been other considerations so that a reconsideration is necessary.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will the Government give us an idea of the other considerations?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—There was one consideration which seems to have escaped the Director; that was the standard of

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly